

THE CRUMB

Bread Loaf - Wednesday, August 12

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-10 - Lecture - Robert Pack
- 11:20 - 12:20 - Lecture - Nancy Willard
- 4:30 - 5:30 - Reading - Andrea Barrett and Richard Jackson
- 8:15 - 9:15 - Reading - Linda Pastan
- 9:30 - 10:30 - Reading, administrative staff

(Unless otherwise noted, all events take place in the little theater)

FRONT DESK NEWS - Do not forget that your front desk people are here to help you have an enjoyable stay. Feel free to ask them questions (politely) - They are loaded with useful information (such as where to hike and bike, if you are so inclined) and they can also be useful to you: they will give you change for the laundry room, cash checks up to fifty dollars a day, and even sell you post-cards.

FRONT DESK NEWS, PART TWO - If you have a car here, either rented or owned, it must be registered with the front desk. They will need your tag number and the state from which you came. Also, please park the car in the lot not on the road. Remember that 125 is technically a highway.

SCHOLARS TAKE NOTE - There will be meeting for the scholars Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 in the blue parlor (the blue parlor is the room where you registered).

BE ALL YOU CAN BE, READ - Please read the booklet you were given upon your arrival. It is brimming with information regarding phone calls (where and how to make them), laundry (where and how to do it), newspapers (how to get and read one), etc.

SINGING, ANYONE? - If there is anyone on this campus who has ever sung anywhere in his or her life and thinks it might be fun to try again, please join the madrigals at 7:30 tonight in the barn. Don't worry if you think you have a lousy voice. It really doesn't matter. The goal is to have fun and, hopefully, begin and end the pieces at the same time. So really, come if at all interested.

FROM THE TREMAN STAFF - This is perhaps the most important message in this conference's opening Crumb. I have been informed by the social staff that asking for a beer must be done in one of two very specific ways. The beer-wanter must say (as casually as possible). "Hey. Could you pass me a brew-dog," or "Hey, there. Could you dog me a Jesus?" These are the only acceptable phrases. No other, especially in Treman itself, will be accepted. If you have problems with this policy, speak to any member of the social staff.

DAILY CRUMB CONTEST - Every day, or as long as people seem interested, there will be a little contest in the Crumb. Tomorrow's is this: re-write the opening lines of Tim O'Brien's "Going After Cacciato" in the style of Dr. Suess. In case you forgot, here are those lines: "It was a bad time. Billy Boy Watkins was dead, and so was Frenchie Tucker. Billy Boy had died of fright, scared to death on the field of battle, and Frenchie Tucker had been shot through the nose." Please place all answers in the CRUMB box by the administrative office in the Inn no later than 3:00 p.m. today. Any answers after this time won't be accepted. By the way, any interesting tid-bits, things you've overheard that you would like to be included in the Crumb can also be put in that box.

(An example of how this quiz might work: the opening lines of Moby Dick, as written by Jay McInerney: Call me Ishmael becomes "You are Ishmael;" or the same lines by George Bush, "I'm that Ishmael thing.")

DON'T GET STRESSED - As you go to workshops and meet with your faculty reader, don't despair. Remember what one noted critic wrote about Samuel Beckett's work: "I wouldn't touch this with a barge-pole." Believe me, the staff here is far gentler (and kinder) than that.

TRY NOT TO HURT YOURSELF, BUT IF YOU DO... there are two highly qualified nurses here to serve you. They reside in Cornwall cabin (across from the inn) and are available from 9-5 each day, with a break for lunch. Oh yes, Kathy will be here the first week and Sandy the second.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF READING - tonight at 9:30 in the Little Theater. Come support the folks who serve you drinks, sell you books, and are otherwise helpful: Steven Duffy, Diann Shoaf, Sebastian Matthews, Jennifer Bates, Dan Elish, Blue Argo and Bess Huddle.

MORE NEWS FROM YOUR SOCIAL STAFF - Notice to potential dance-music whiners. Please leave dance tapes and/or music suggestions with the Front Desk (for Saturday night's bash).

COCKTAILS - today an all campus reception on the West Lawn at 5:30. (Note to staff - there will be no evening cocktails at Treman.

HELP WANTED - If you need assistance getting to or from workshops or discussion groups please inform the office staff as soon as possible.

Day Lilies

The color of rust themselves,
we plant them in clusters
by the rusted mailbox

for the unfranked messages they bring
of summer. Neither
do they spin.

Flickering briefly
on their graceful stems,
they quelch

the light each evening,
folding themselves
into our rural dreams.

- Linda Pastan



THE CRUMB

Bread Loaf, Thursday - August 13

THE DAY'S EVENTS

9-10 - Lecture - Donald Justice

10:10-11:10 - Lecture - Hilma Wolitzer "Supporting Your Habit"

11:20-12:20 - Reading by Fellows: Laura Kasischke, Jack Stephens and Leila Philip

2:00-3:30 - Discussion Groups. Here's where you should meet -

Classroom Barn 1 - Brown; Barn 2 - Pastan; Barn 3 - Huddle; Barn 4 - Parini;

Barn 5 - Wolitzer; Barn 6 - Prose; Barn 7 - Strand/Pack;

Barn West - O'Brien; Library, 2nd floor - Willard; Library, 1st floor - Justice;

Blue Parlor - Voight; Apple Cellar - Matthews; Treman - Powers

4:30-5:30 - Reading - Ann Hood and Gary Margolis

8:15 - Reading - Tim O'Brien

9:30-10:30 - Reading - Administrative Staff

CRUMB QUIZ - In today's issue there are 6 references to Fitzgerald's "The Great Gatsby." Some of these references are subtle, some less so. See if you can find them. (There's no need to hand your answers back to me. I'll list them in tomorrow's issue).

EDITOR'S NOTE - Many kind people have already pointed out a few typos in yesterday's issue. Please forgive me. I mean no harm. What can I say? I'm a riter not a proof-reeder.

MORE EXCITING READINGS FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE - Give yourself the green light and go to the administrative staff reading. Tonight's readers are: Milly Bentley, Michael Laba, Kristen Lindquist, Ralph Sneedeen, Michale Wolf, Woody Woodsum, Lesley Dauer and Joel Peckham.

TRAFFIC ALERT - Please wear a helmet when you ride your bike. And when you walk or run on the road, don't spend all your time looking at nature (the trees and daisies), but make sure to also keep an eye out for cars. Remember to run opposite the traffic.

⇒ JAY — GATSBY ⇐

LITTLE DID YOU KNOW - After dealing with immense media pressure in Barcelona, many members of the U.S.A. basketball team (the so called "dream team") have decided to attend Bread Loaf inognito, each one of them cleverly disguised. But if you should happen to recognize Michael Jordan sitting next to you at a reading or Charles Barkley discussing Keats in the barn, please pretend you don't know who they really are. As Patrick Ewing said to me yesterday: "Bread Loaf is a place for introspection, a place to cleanse the soul, where I can get in touch with my inner self in a lovely pastoral setting. And Bread Loaf should help my game. Tomorrow I will run faster, stretch my arms farther..."

WHO'S THE BETTER WRITER? TIM OR JOHN? - to be settled at Bread Loaf...at least it was going to be settled at Bread Loaf, but, unfortunately, John Irving no-heighted the pole vault and wasn't allowed to attend.

EDITOR'S NOTE, PART TWO - I wish to extend my apologies to Linda Pastan for the typo in her poem in yesterday's issue. They word quelch should be quench. I promise to quelch such mistakes in the future.

BOOKSTORE NEWS - Please note that the bookstore will not be open during today's discussion groups.

I JUST CALLED... - If the phone in your hallway rings, answer it. It may be the front desk transferring a call to you.

ANY OLYMPIC HOPEFULS? - If you found yourself feeling incredibly jealous of Carl Lewis, Dan and Dave, Gwen Torrence and all the other runners, there will be a chance to prove yourself at Bread Loaf in the annual "Writer's Cramp Race" this Sunday at 11:00. The course is about 5K and runners, joggers and walkers are all welcome. Prizes will be awarded by genre.

SWITCHED FELLOWS - Please note these scheldule changes: James Harms will read Saturday August 22 at 11:15, not on August 18th and Nicholas Samaras will read Tuesday the 18th instead of August 22nd.

IT'S OFFICIAL - The Crumb and administrative staff welcomes Milly Bentley back to campus and ordains her the "Goddess of the Diningroom." She will answer only to that name, so from now on you can say, "Hey, Milly" - I mean 'Goddess of the Diningroom' - there aren't any carroway seeds on my roll."

DR. SUESS MEETS TIM O'BRIEN - Here is the winning answer by Neil Plakcy:

I do not like this rotten war,
I do not like it anymore.
I do not like it in Saigon.
I do not like it in Khe Sanh.
I do not like it at My Lai,
I do not like it in Song My.
I do not like this Viet Nam.
I do not like it where I am.

And one more: I was scared from the tip of my head to my toes.
Poor Frenchie Tucker was shot through the nose.
A bad time it was - I could hear my knees rattle.
When Billy Boy Watkins dropped dead in the battle!

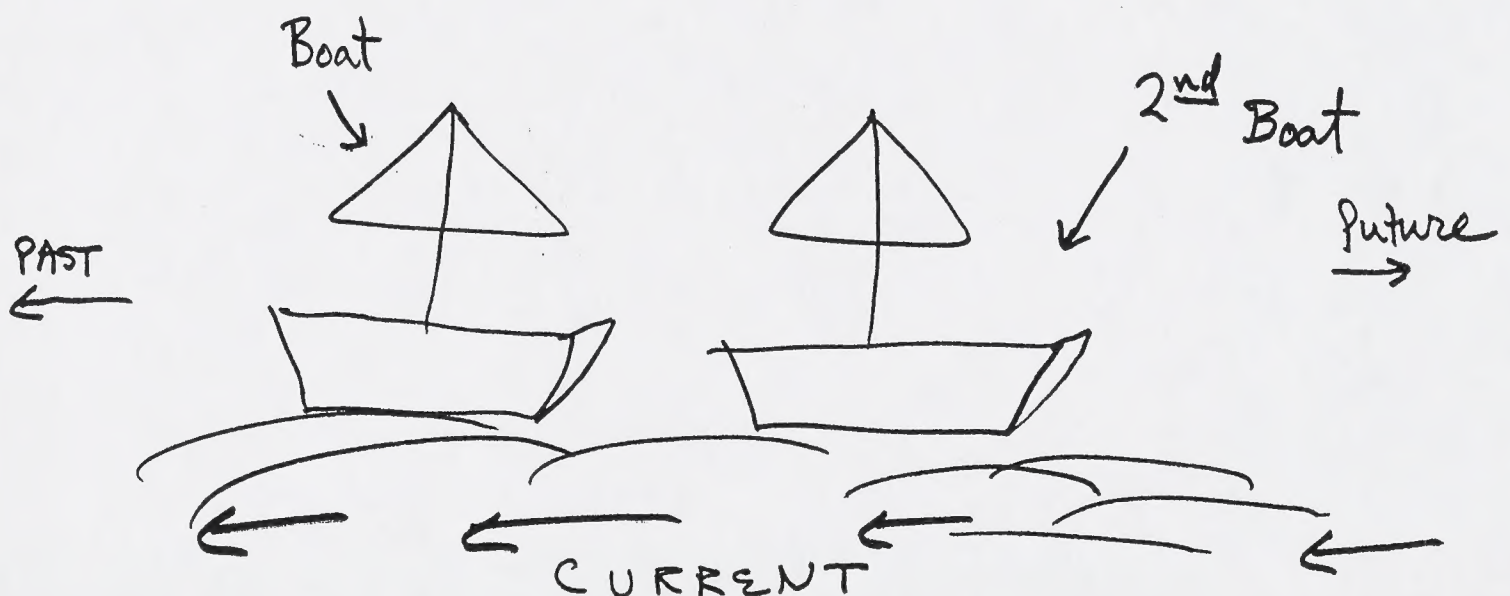
NOTE TO CAROL - This is true. "If it's possible I'd like to change my reader preferences to...if it's impossible, I'd really appreciate it."

INTERNATIONAL WRITERS - come and talk about writing/working /looking for work overseas today at 5:30 in the Blue Parlor.

GREETINGS - from Rae Cobbs (a Bread Loafer of past years). She called to say hello and that she misses everyone.

The war was over and there was no place in particular to go. Norman Bowker followed the tar road on its seven-mile loop around the lake, then he started all over again, driving slowly, feeling safe inside his father's big Chevy, now and then looking out on the lake to watch the boats and waterskiers and scenery. It was Sunday and it was summer, and the town seemed pretty much the same. The lake lay flat and silvery against the sun. Along the road the houses were all low-slung and split-level and modern, with big porches and picture windows facing the water. The lawns were spacious. On the lake side of the road, where real estate was most valuable, the houses were handsome and set deep in, well kept and brightly painted, with docks jutting out into the lake, and boats moored and covered with canvas, and neat gardens, and sometimes even gardeners, and stone patios with barbecue spits and grills, and wooden shingles saying who lived where.

Tim O'Brien "The Things They Carried"



THE CRUMB

Bread Loaf - Friday, August 14

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-10 - Lecture - Ron Powers - "Why am I writing this?"
10:10-11:10 - Lecture - William Matthews - "Sentimental Villany" and "Privacies"
11:20-12:20 - Reading - Fellows: Bruce Bond, Antonya Nelson and James Kilgo
4:30-5:30 - Reading - Larry Brown and Carol Frost
8:15 - Reading - Ellen Bryant Voigt

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE - Maria Modugno, Editor in Chief of Juveniles at Little Brown will talk informally about writing and publishing children's books on Monday at 3:15 in Barn West.

MORE SOCIAL STAFF NEWS - As you know, up until now there have been only two acceptable ways to request a beer at Bread Loaf ("Brew-dog" or "Dog me a Jesus"). We can all breathe a sigh of relief that there is now a third. The social staff has informed me that the phrase "Leash me a doggie Moses" will also be honored.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME - For any baseball lovers there will be a softball game Sunday afternoon at 2:00 in the big field. Don't worry about a lack of mitts or other equipment - these will be supplied.

WORKSHOP NEWS - Copies of two short stories to be read for Tim O'Brien's class on Thursday may be picked up today outside the secretaries' office. Unfortunately, there are only a few copies, so only take one if you definitely will attend the class. Then be neighborly and share them with others. If you can't read one any other way, two copies will be on reserve in the library. Please bring the stories to class. This same note also applies to Ellen Bryant Voigt's workshop, but substitute the word "poems" for "stories."

NEWS FROM THE G.O.P. - One of the great joys of being a Bread Loafer this year is that we all get to miss the Republican convention. Yes, we will not be honored by great orators such as our highly articulate vice president who recently said: "There's one form of birth control even a poor unmarried woman living in our inner cities can afford, and it's not something that's handed out by any liberal welfare programs or something that causes you to be promiscuous. I'm talking about a simple, one-syllable word, and that word is "no, thank you."

MISSING FELLOW - We regret to announce that Bill Roorbach, Bread Loaf fellow and author of "Summers with Juliet" was inadvertently left off the official fellow's list. Please take note.

NOTE FROM A NIGHTINGALE - Barbara Nightingale, that is, who would like to organize an open poetry reading for anyone who would like to participate (to read or listen) on Sunday afternoon from 2:30 to 4:00, probably in Barn West. Drop a note in Barbara's mailbox if interested.

QUIZ ANSWERS - I know that some of the clues were very tough, but here are those six "Great Gatsby" references from yesterday: "green light," "daisies," (Daisy Buchanan), "Jay Gatsby," "Tomorrow I will run faster, etc." (from the last paragraph of the book), "carroway seeds" (Nick Carroway), and the brilliant drawing at the bottom of the issue, an artist's rendering of the closing lines of the novel: "So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."

TOMORROW'S QUIZ - Write the opening lines of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" - "All the whos down in Whoville liked Christmas a lot. But the Grinch who lived just north of Whoville did not. The Grinch hated Christmas, the whole Christmas season. Please don't ask why, no one quite knows the reason," in the style of Hemingway. All submissions must be in the Crumb box by 2:30.

NURSE'S HOURS - will be 8 to 4 on Sunday.

MAID TO SERVE - A few notes regarding the maid/cleaning service. Sheets and towels will be changed once a week. Beds will be made daily, if there is nothing lying on the bed. Maids will not clean up anything with blood on it (for health reasons), nor will they touch other unsavory bodily fluids. (Please don't make me spell it out). All requests or concerns regarding the maid service must be directed to the front desk, not to the maids themselves.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: "I am a taxpayer and a redblooded American who has been a reader of your newspaper for years, but now am sick and tired and fed up and have had enough. First you go and slant Linda Pastan's poetry to where it's "quelch" instead of "quench" or whatever. Then you screw up the name of a genuine American patriot, Dr. Seuss. Who's handling your and your ilk's copyediting? Dan Quayle? Cancel my subscription. Signed Ron Powers." Well, Ron, I'll gladly spend more time copyediting...perhaps during your lecture today?

COCKTAILS FOR TWO - actually for 300, that means for everyone today behind the Little Theater at 5:30. In case of rain, go to the barn. By the way this is the perfect opportunity for you to ask the social staff for beer in one of the three acceptable ways.

PUMPING IRON - For those of you who want to be physically fit and want to pursue this goal in a gym, the Middlebury College Field House (in downtown Midd. on the college campus) is available to you. Here are the hours. Today from 12 to 6:45. Tomorrow from 12 to 3. Closed on Sunday. Next week through Friday, from 12 to 6:30. Please note: if you want to pump iron, the fitness center's hours are: 12-1:30 and 4-6:30, closed on Sunday.

JANET EVANS AND MATT BIONDI wannabes can go swimming at the Vermont Sun, a private fitness club in Middlebury. The hours are Mon.-Fri. 6am-9pm; Sat. 8am-6pm; Sun. - noon-6pm. The rates are \$10 a day, \$25 a week, \$14 for the second week. A group may rent half the pool for \$35. Call for directions and more info: 388-6888.

A SAD NOTE - John Cage, the great avant-garde composer, died yesterday. Cage was known as a major innovator in music, writing pieces for prepared piano, "chance" compositions and much more. In one of his last interviews he said: "I don't like meaningful sound. If sound is meaningless, I'm all for it."

Variations: THORN-APPLE

Slender, cylindrical,
without a mark or seam,
almost wet against the rock;
wearing alternating bands
of black and yellow, and itself
coiled like a bracelet.

"Pretty, pretty,"
is what the baby said, reaching for it.
- Ellen Bryant Voigt



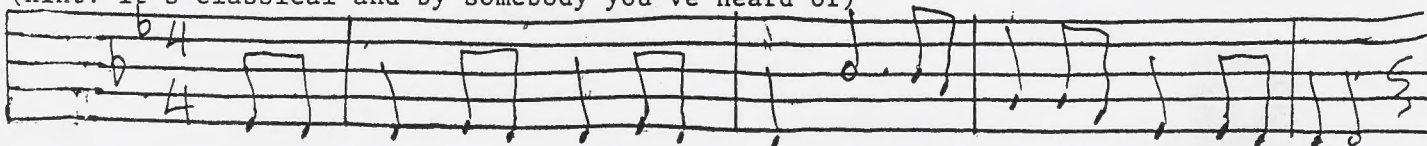
THE CRUMB

Bread Loaf - Saturday, August 15

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-10 - Lecture - Linda Pastan - "Yesterday's Noise"
10:10-11:10 - Lecture - David Huddle - "The Writer as Emotional Engineer"
11:20-12:20 - Panel of Editors - Camille Hykes, David Godine and Carol Houck Smith
2:00 - 3:30 - Discussion Groups
4:30 - 5:30 - Reading - Jay Parini
8:15 - Reading - Nancy Willard

CRUMB QUIZ: I know this isn't literary, but try and figure out what piece of music this is:
(Hint: it's classical and by somebody you've heard of)



CUT THAT RUG - tonight in the barn at 9:30 there will be a dance. Please do your best to keep the whining about the music to a minimum. The social staff will do its best to keep it varied, beginning with big band and jazz and ending with rock. (The volume might well increase as the night goes on). Feel free to dress as your favorite author - large cash prizes will be awarded to the best costume. For those of you who hate dancing, there will be a quiet alternative in the Blue Parlor with ice mixers. BYOB.

NEW BOOKS - have arrived in the bookstore: "Wild Brides" by Laura Kasischke, "Hands of the Saddlemaker" by Nicholas Samaras, "Two-Trees" by Ellen Bryant Voigt and "The Worldwide Dessert Contest" by Dan Elish. Come and buy lots of copies, but remember that the bookstore is closed during today's discussion groups.

NEWS FROM EMILY POST - Bread Loaf decorum calls for doing your best not to arrive late to or leave early from the readings. Also, please use ashtrays to put out cigarettes, not the ground.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT - As part of the celebration of Bob Pack's 20th Anniversary as Director of the Bread Loaf Writer's Conference, there is an exhibit at the College Library entitled "The Pack Years." Numerous catalogue materials are on display. Please visit the library (again, at the college campus) and see them. Flyers describing the exhibit are available in Carol's office.

SPECIAL MEETINGS - the first on Sunday from 10:30 to 12 in the Blue Parlor for women contributors in fiction. Please attend! There is space for two more readers. If interested drop a note in Lynn Dean Hunter's mailbox (#2390). Also, any gay, lesbian or bi-sexual writers who want to get together and talk about writing please get in touch with Tom Armbrrecht (mailbox 2412).

G.O.P. NEWS - In a move I'm sure no one here anticipated, James Baker has resigned as Secretary of State and has been put in charge of the Bush campaign. The New York Times writes that according to Baker: "Bush... is now ready to turn to the domestic concerns - jobs, schools and health care -..." Forgive me, but this is funnier than anything I could possibly ever come up with myself to put in the Crumb.

TWO REMINDERS - to check your mailbox every day for messages; also, nurse's hours on Sunday are 8 to 4.

SOCIAL STAFF UPDATE - As you all know, there are three official ways to ask for a beer at Bread Loaf: the classic "brew-dog," the forthright "dog me a Jesus," and the unusual "leash me a doggie Moses." Well, Woody Woodsum, social staff maven, informs me there is now a fourth way. At tonight's dance, sidle casually up to the bar and declare: "Hey there. Could ya scap me a nut-brown?"

SONGS SOUGHT - If you have any favorite songs that you'd like to hear at tonight's dance, please feel free to leave a note at the front desk no later than noon today. If you have a tape of the song leave that too. But don't forget to make suggestions - the social staff wants your input.

CRUMB CONTEST RESULTS - in which you were asked to write the opening lines of "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" like Hemingway. Here's the winner: "The Grinch was once middle-weight boxing champion of whoville. Do not think that I am very much impressed by that as a boxing title, but it meant a lot to the Grinch. Maybe that's why he cared nothing for Christmas..." (This submission was unsigned).

PALMIST - seeks hands to read. Interested palms can contact Susan at mailbox 2341.

READING - Anyone planning to attend Barbra Nightingale's open reading Sunday afternoon should plan to bring only one or two poems (depending on the size of the crowd).

WRITER'S CRAMP RACE - don't forget to run at 11:00 tomorrow morning. It's only 5K and the members of the USA Olympic "Dream Team" (who are at the conference, if you recall, in cognito) have promised to run slowly.

SUNDAY MASS - Elizabeth Carrol is driving to 8:00 Mass at St. Mary's in Middlebury on Sunday morning. As she puts it, "Join me if you're interested in atoning for all the forbidden thoughts you've been having while sitting in the Little Theater." Contact Box 2401.

SPEEDERS BEWARE - Route 125 is policed. Observe the speed limit and drive slowly.

I JUST CALLED TO SAY - please do your best to keep your phone calls short. Remember, there are 300 of us here and only 5 pay phones.

DON'T GET STRESSED: PART TWO - don't fret about your up-coming one-on-one conference. Here's what one publisher wrote to Stephen King, perhaps America's richest author: "We are not interested in science fiction that deals with negative utopias. They do not sell." Stephen had the last laugh and so may you.

Columbus sat with crossed legs beside the medicine man, whose body was painted with bright red and yellow dyes in a geometrical zigzag pattern. He wore a necklace of sea-shells, and his hair was braided into a long tail. His only body covering was a kind of skirt made of interlacing palm leaves. There was a leather thong around his waist, and from it was suspended a manaca - a hatchet with a triangular blade of polished stone that glistened in the ceremonial fire that leaped, geisering flakes of hot ash upward into the dark sky.

- Jay Parini "Bay of Arrows"

My name is Maureen, I'm the tinker-town queen.
My caravan travels from Gort to Kildare.
When my pony went lame, I remembered the fame
of Biddy the healer, wise woman of Clare.
Bright star of the morning, she gave me fair warning:
"Under my bridge huddles Trouble-and-Pain.
For the sake of this bottle, the creature will throttle
both you and your horse as you cross its domain."
- Nancy Willard "How the Queen of the Gypsies Met Trouble-and-Pain"



THE

CRUMB

Bread Loaf - Sunday, August 16

THE DAY'S EVENTS

11:00 - Writer's Cramp Race - meet on or in front of the porch of Cherry.

4:30-5:30 - Reading - David Huddle

8:15 - Reading - Robert Pack

A DAY OF REST - you'll notice that there is lots of free time today. Use it to relax, recover, take scenic drives, or otherwise enjoy yourselves.

CRUMB QUIZ - In this issue you will find 6 references to Nabokov's "Lolita." Answers tomorrow. (One of the clues is somewhat obvious, the rest less so).

SOCIAL STAFF REPORT - please be aware that Vermont liquor laws allow the social staff to serve you only one drink at a time. So from now on, don't say: "Could you leash me some doggie Moseses?" (translation: could I have two beers...), but say: "Hey - could you scap me one nut-brown?" By the way, I've just been informed there is one other acceptable way to ask for a beer. Grab any social staff member and shout: "Snort me a quilty!"

OVERHEARD - Friday night: "I'm going to have to totally re-orient my nervous system when I get back to Illinois." And during last night's dance: "Hey, I like the way you move. You sure make the floor hum, Bert!"

UNDERSTATEMENT OF THE DAY - Mozart was a talented musician. His 40th Symphony is the answer to yesterday's quiz. (Not the theme to "Jeopardy" as someone suggested).

CONFUSED? - Let this message clear the haze. Ellen Voigt's and Tim O'Brien's classes on Wednesday (next week, obviously) are open to anyone who wants to attend. However, you are asked to read the appropriate handout in advance (if the stack in front of the office door is depleted, you can find copies on reserve in the library). The classes are designed around "how writers read." Tim will go through two stories; Ellen will look at a handful of poems in terms of "lyric structure." Classroom locations will be announced in Wednesday's Crumb.

MORNING READING - in the Blue Parlor from 10:30 to 12. Five women will read from their work. Please come and lend an ear.

NEWS FROM THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL - We all know that Ann Hood had to endure the scurrying of chipmunks during her reading, but on Thursday, in Duluth, Minn., Tipper Gore was forced to pet a rat. (This is true, - she held the leashed rodent in her enchanted arms).

DREAM TEAM WINS DANCE COSTUME AWARD - the USA basketball's dream team (once again, attending the conference in clever disguises to avoid publicity), took the top three cash prizes at last night's dance. Patrick Ewing's brilliant impersonation of Truman Capote took the gold. Scottie Pippen's Erica Jong took second and Christian Laettner's Toni Morrison crowded out David Robinson's Dickens for third. By the way, those dream teamers can really shake. As Michael Jordan put it: "You can always count on a basketball player for a fancy dance style."

SOFTBALL - this afternoon at 2 on the big field. Be there. Bats, balls and gloves will be supplied.

↓ ↓ ↙
"LO-LEE-TA"
↗ ↑ ↑

A FIRST - A CRUMB PUZZLE - special thanks to Neil Plakcy for devising this. In this maze of letters are the names of all senior and associate staff (last name, the two Browns have their first initials included), plus five other Bread Loaf related mystery words. And there's even more! The remaining letters spell out an author's name and a quote relating to Bread Loaf. (Names, etc. move forward, backwards and diagonally).

POWERSTRAND AERB
 RARFICTIONATSA P
 OF E T MATTHEWSBER
 NAT K I F JUSTICE PY
 WOLITZERRESHOAE
 O L S T C H C W R H U U O R L
 R S Y E H W T O D R A L L I W
 B O R O E D S I F T H M M N A
 L Y T H L E S E M E D A A I H
 T R E I L L O C R S R N E I U
 T N O S K C A J T G O E H I D
 E N P O E K D O O H I N I I K D
 R K O N O W W Y E S O R P R L
 R B R O W N I S E T A B X A E
 A K N A V S S L X F R O S T X
 B R Y A N T V O I G T X X S X

Intimacy is a necessary condition between teachers and students of any art. If a student is good and a teacher wishes to serve that student well, then the teacher must be prepared to be intimately connected with the student. Nineteen seventy-one was the fourth year of Marie's and my marriage. As to kids, push was coming to shove: Marie thought she wanted them, and I thought I didn't. If you're moderately constant and sociable, you can get through five years of marriage without children; ten years is another question, and it was one Marie and I were just beginning to address. Everything was relevant to it.

David Huddle - The Beautiful Gestures from "The High Spirits"

Three hundred thousand opaque years
 of burning darkness - then
 a universe at once made visible, suffused
 with light exactly when

true atoms form, a brilliant yellow light
 of liberated photons, free
 to give expanding space the sacred gift
 of sumptuous transparency.

Thank you, Professor Pagels,
 for informing me how, as the atoms cool,
 the universal yellow changes
 into orange deepening to red - a pool

in which a blazing god
 might watch himself become incarnate, praised be He!,
 through radiation waves
 proportional inversely to their energy.

Robert Pack - "Let There Be Colored Light"

NOTE TO READERS: LAST NIGHT AS I WAS PREPARING TODAY'S EDITION OF THE PAPER, A BLONDE MAN WITH A BLAND SMILE BURST INTO MY OFFICE, TIED ME UP AND TOOK OVER THE PAPER. ONLY AFTER I RECOVERED DID I REALIZE THAT IT WAS OUR VICE PRESIDENT ON HIS WAY TO HOUSTON TO ATTEND THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION. HE WROTE THE DAY'S EVENTS AND SAID AS HE LEFT: "IF YOU CHANGE ANYTHING I'VE WRITTEN I'LL GET JESSE HELMS TO DECLARE BREAD LOAF OBSCENE AND SHUT IT DOWN."

Ed Caumbé

Monday, August 17

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-12 - Me lectrue on golff
- 12-2 - foode
- 2-4 - Debatee Ron Powrs on evilss of liberallls
- 4-6 - Rest my brians, then catch plain to Houstoon

THE DAY'S EVENTS - PART TWO

- 9-10 - Lecture - Rosellen Brown - "On Not Writing a Novel"
- 10:10-11:10 - Lecture - Mark Strand - "An Alphabet of Influences"
- 11:20-12:20 - Reading, Fellows: Jeff Danzinger, Elaine Terranova, Bill Roorbach
- 2-3 - Panel Discussion on Biography - Ron Powers, Paul Mariani and Joyce Johnson
- 4:30-5:30 - Reading - Dinitia Smith and Michael Collier
- 8:15-9:15 - Reading - Francine Prose
- 9:30-10:30 - Reading - Scholars

SCHOLAR'S READING - tonight in the Little Theater come and hear: Cynthia Atkins, Lee Martin, Susan Luzzaro, Dorien Ross, Donna Stein, Constance Warloe and Philip Welch.

BEER NAME OF THE DAY: Add this to your list: "Kife me a Neeki."

PHOTOS - will be snapped today (weather permitting, no driving rains or tornadoes) as follows: fellows, faculty, administrative scholars at Treman at 1:45 pm. Scholars and diningroom scholars (i.e. - waiters) meet outside the diningroom at approximately 1:30. Look for David Bain on the lawn between the Inn and Annex. Anyone may order an 8 by 10 copy for \$6 to be delivered in Oct. Place orders at the office.

CHILDREN'S PUBLISHING - Don't forget that Maria Modugno, Editor in Chief of Juveniles at Little Brown will talk informally today about writing and publishing children's books at 3:15 in Barn West.

SORRY, BUT - these things are important, as much as we hate to nag. Please keep phone calls short and try to be on timeto lectures and readings.

LO-LEE-TA - was the most obvious answer to yesterday's quiz. The others were: "Snort me a quilty!" (Quilty is a character in the book); "You sure make the floor hum, Bert" (Humbert Humbert - the main character); the word haze (character Charlotte Haze); enchanted arms (the first hotel at which Humbert and Lolita stayed) and "You can always count on a basketball player for a fancy dance style" (end of first page of the book: "You can always count on a murderer for a fancy prose style")

TOMORROW'S QUIZ - This has nothing to do with literature, but it does have something to do with politics and the GOP is in Houston so here goes: who was the last vice president (before George Bush) for a two term president to win the office himself? Was he re-elected?

CRAMP RESULTS - the annual "Writer's Cramp" was run by a group of brave souls Sunday morning at 11:00. Here are the results (by genre); first: Kevin Durkin (poetry) in 20 minutes 21 seconds; second: Marcia Dowling (non-fiction); third: Ed Brown (fiction). Other strong finishers were Jack Stephens, Ali Holtzapple and Dana Cann. Congratulations to all who were able to rouse themselves by 11, let alone run several miles.

COME SEE A MOVIE - today at 3:15 in Barn 1. It's called "Robert Frost: Across the Fence," a half hour video tour of the Frost Cabin with many anecdotes about the Bard of Ripton. The interview is conducted by Lyn Jarvis (WCAX-TV, Burlington) with David Bain, Bread Loaf Historian. (The show will be repeated toward the end of the week).

DININGROOM NEWS - Let it be known: Josh Henkin was recently named "God of the Diningroom" and Faith Shearin (known to the masses simply as "Faith" - bringing to mind pop-culture icons such as "Cher" and "Madonna") has been voted "Most likely to appear on Jay Leno."

MEETING - the editors of N.I.S.E.M., a new journal of the arts, will meet with potential contributors today from 12:30 to 1:30 in Barn 3. Manuscripts will be evaluated.

TENSE? STRESSED OUT? - unstress and de-tense yourself with our very own massage therapist. Sessions will be available today through Wednesday from 1 to 6 at Cornwall. The cost is \$40 an hour.

SPORTS UPDATES - Ed Brown and David Huddle (before his reading, showing no signs whatsoever of nervousness) easily crushed Lindsey Huddle and Peter Fayroian, former number one player at UVM, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4.

MORE SPORTS NEWS - fiction beat poetry and non-fiction is a closely contested softball game. The fictioneers behind the strong pitching of Leslie Bienen (14 strikeouts, 37 walks), won the hard fought game 14-10.

Everyone seemed to understand that this was a dangerous season. In one magazine a panel of ministers and psychologists sagely advised their readers on how to prevent holiday dynamite from detonating in their lives. A psychiatrist described past grievances and hurts as destructive presents family members bring to family occasions. The secret he said was learning to leave those explosive packages home.

- Francine Prose "Primitive People"

The cultural elite is going around saying "family values" is a code for something. Well, we know that "family values" is not a code for anything. "Family values" means exactly what it says it means. Traditional values. Important values that are... important. Values that we have here in the United States of America. And anyone who thinks otherwise, well, you can just vote for someone other than President George Bush, which I certainly don't advise you to do because he understands exactly about the family values that made this nation great.

- Dan Quayle



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D. 8.

NOTE TO READERS: IT HAPPENED AGAIN. THIS TIME IT WAS AN ELDERLY MAN WITH A GOOFY GRIN. GIGGLING WILDLY, WAVING HIS ARMS, HE BOUND ME TO MY CHAIR AND TYPED TODAY'S EVENTS. THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO. AS HE LURCHED OUT OF THE ROOM HE CRIED: "CLARENCE THOMAS WAS THE BEST CHOICE! REALLY, HE WAS!"

The Crumb - thing

August 18, 1992

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-12 - Discuss campaign strategy with the new president, I mean the new campaign head, Jim Baker.
- 12-2 - Re-read history of Truman victory in 1948.
- 2-6 - Pray
- 6-7 - Speech therapy then off to the Texas thing.

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-11 - Workshops - Here's where they meet: Huddle - Barn 1; Matthews - Barn 2; Voigt - Barn 3; Powers - Barn 4; Brown - Barn West
- 11:15-12:15 - Reading - Fellows: Teresa Cader, Pam Houston and Nick Samaras
- 2-3 - Lecture - Jay Parini - "Tolstoy's Telephone: A Meditation on History and Fiction"
- 4:30-5:30 - Reading - Judith Cofer and Don Mitchell
- 8:15-9:15 - Reading - Don Justice
- 9:30-10:30 - Reading - Scholars

MORE SCHOLARS - are reading tonight at 9:30. Don't miss them: Beth Livermore, Gerard Donovan, Mary Edsall, Jack Hayes, Debra Hughes-Blanks, Maurice Kilwein-Guevara, Lisa Knopp and Lynne Kuderko.

TRAVEL PLANS - if you plan to take a taxi to the airport next Saturday or Sunday you must check the list at the front desk and make sure that you are on it. If you are not, please leave a note for Jen Heck specifying what time your flight leaves and on what day. All taxi plans must be finalized before Friday at noon. Don't forget or else you risk having to walk to the airport (not advisable).

ARE YOU STRANGE? - do you have experimental or alternative short fiction that you would like to read (i.e., erotica, tales of the supernatural, as of yet uncategorized)? Leave a note for Margaret Howard (Box 2389). She'd like to meet Friday night at 10 in the Blue Parlor.

GAY/LESBIAN - writers at Bread Loaf will meet to talk and read today from 5:30 to 6:30 in the Blue Parlor.

BEER NAME OF THE DAY - Add this to your ever expanding list (of 6): "Wriggle me a jaunty hound-dog."

MUSICAL ERROR DULY NOTED - it was pointed out to me that I got the last two notes of the Mozart Symphony wrong. They should be Cs, not Ds. My apologies to any affronted ears.

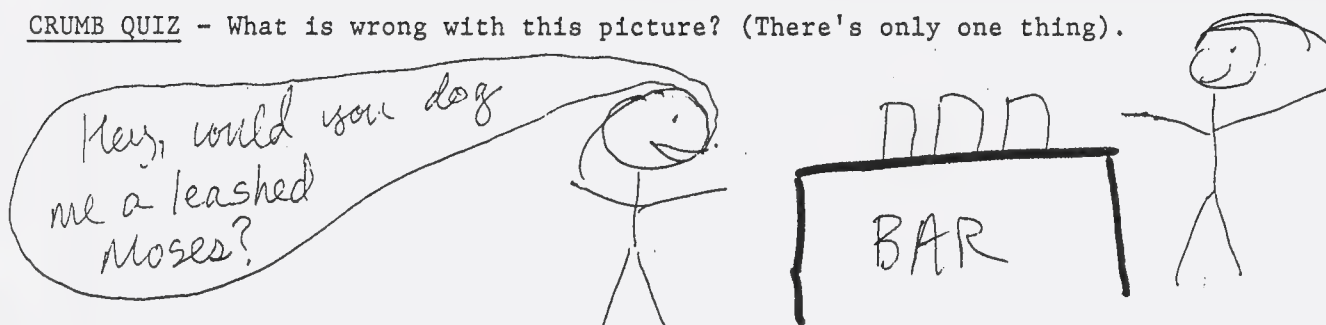
QUIZ ANSWER - Martin Van Buren (he succeeded Andrew Jackson and then lost his bid for re-election).

COCKTAILS - at the Larch-well (that's outside of Larch) this afternoon directly after the afternoon reading. In case of rain, go to the barn.

PHOTO OPS - for fellows, faculty and administrative scholars today at Treman at 12:45.

TRAVEL PLANS - PART TWO - Van service will be available to the Middlebury bus station this weekend. Please sign up at the front desk by Friday noon. Vans will leave at 7:30am, 11:30am and 5:30pm on Saturday and at 7:30 and 11:30 on Sunday morning, but only if people sign up in advance.

CRUMB QUIZ - What is wrong with this picture? (There's only one thing).



RIDE NEEDED - It could be your lucky day. King of the Diningroom, Josh Henkin, needs a ride to the New York New Jersey area on Friday. Please contact Josh - he promises gas money and charm.

READ THAT LECTURE - lectures presented at the conference by some faculty members will be made available for \$3.50 a lecture. Be sure to order yours today in the secretaries' office. Copies should be ready by Friday and payment is due then. The only exception is Mark Strand which must be paid for in advance and will then be mailed to you.

THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULDN'T - Sorry to report that Maria Modugno of Little Brown children's books couldn't make it up the mountain on time yesterday. She will be meeting any interested conferees today at 3:10 in Barn 2.

LITERARY AGENT - Virginia Barber (agent of Rosellen Brown, Dinitia Smith and Alice Monroe) will speak informally in Barn West at 3:10.

NON-FICTION EDITOR - Ed Barber, Vice President at Norton, will speak equally as informally about publishing non-fiction at 3:10 in Barn 1.

HOT SONGS SOUGHT - Woody Woodsum, member of the social staff, seeks two tunes for this coming Saturday's dance: "Walk Like an Egyptian" and "These Boots are Made for Walking." If anyone happens to have either of these songs with them, please walk on over to Woody and shout: "Woody! I've got the songs!"

CRUMB QUIZ - PART TWO - Who is the least obnoxious person at Bread Loaf?

- a) Jennifer Bates
- b) Jennifer Bates
- c) Jennifer Bates
- d) all of the above
- e) all of the above, except b



The telephone poles
Have been holding their
Arms out
A long time now
To birds
That will not
Settle there
But pass with
Strange cawings
Westward to
Where dark trees
Gather about a
Waterhole this
Is Kansas the
Mountains start here
Just behind
The closed eyes
Of a farmer's
Sons asleep
In their workclothes

-Donald Justice
"Crossing Kansas By Train"

"The Governor of Arkansas compares himself to Thomas Jefferson. Well, I knew Thomas Jefferson. We were good friends. And let me say this: 'Mr. Governor, you are no Thomas Jefferson.'"

- Ronald Reagan addressing the Republican Convention Monday night

THE CRUMB

Wednesday, August 19

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-11 - Workshops - Here's where you'll meet: Prose - Barn 4; Wolitzer - Barn 2; Parini - Barn 3; Pastan - Barn West; Strand/Pack - Barn 1
- 11:15-12:15 - Mystery Reader
- 2-4 - Class - Tim O'Brien and Ellen Bryant Voigt. Tim's class - Barn West; Ellen's - Barn 1
- 4:30-5:30 - Reading - Helen Schulman and Bob Reiss
- 8:15-9:15 - Reading - Rosellen Brown
- 9:30-10:30 - Reading - Waiters

WAITER READING - come and see for yourself that our gallant wait staff can do more than serve us delicious, steaming plates of victuals. Reading tonight: Ben Anastas, Rebecas Graves, Tess James, Robert Hass, Faith Shearin (a.k.a. - "Faith"), Michael Morse, Vivian Axiotis, Josh Henkin, Susan Palmer, Bisham Bherwani, Leslie Bienen and Patrick Hartigan.

AFTER THE WAITERS - rush up to Myers Cabin for yet another reading - anyone can come and anyone can read from their work. Refreshments will be provided (dogged Mosi for the leashing).

MYSTERY READER - is so top secret that even the Crumb's investigative reporting team hasn't been able to find out who it is (though there are some rumors - Darryl Strawberry reading from his epic work: "Darryl," or Lenny Dykstra reading from his tome that takes a serious re-examination of American athletes: "Nails"). Even if the reader isn't quite as intellectual as these two super-stars, come anyway. Whoever it is promises to be very good and they're probably famous.

SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP - will be played Saturday August 22, at 3:10 in the Big Field.

NEWS FROM THE WOOD-DOG - did you know that Woody Woodsum, social staff wizard, has a collection of some 38,000 wine corks? It's true. And if you'd like to donate any of your favorite corks to Woody, he would love it. Woody has also informed the Crumb of the beginnings of those hilarious beer names we have all come to love, not to mention use. Writes Woody: "Maria Elena Cabellero-Robb heard the phrase 'dog me a Jesus' at 'The Palms,' a bar in Ithaca." Maria brought the phrase to Ann Arbor and Woody brought it to Bread Loaf. Today's phrase: "Ling me a wow-wow!"

DE-STRESS SESSIONS - are available today. Get a massage from 12 to 6. An hour is \$40 and now, for a limited time only, a half hour is \$25. Sign up at Cornwall.

READING BY FIRELIGHT - tomorrow night at Gilmore from 10 to midnight. BYOB and BYO stories or poems.

ANSWERS TO YESTERDAY'S QUIZ - if you recall there was a brilliantly rendered picture of a man at a bar saying: "Dog me a leashed Moses." Careful readers of the paper know that the proper phrasing is: "Leash me a doggie Moses."

TODAY'S QUIZ - Rewrite the opening of Ronald Reagan's speech at the Republican Convention as a poem in any style (extra credit for villanelles).

We were meant to be masters of destiny, not victims of fate. Who among us would trade America's future for that of any other country in the world? And who could possibly have so little faith in our American people that they would trade our tomorrows for our yesterdays?

To hear the Democrats talk, you'd never know that the nightmare of nuclear annihilation has been lifted from our sleep. You'd never know that our standard of living remains the highest in the world. You'd never know that our air is cleaner than it was 20 years ago. You'd never know that we remain the one nation the rest of the world looks to for leadership.

It wasn't always this way. We mustn't forget, even if they would like to, the very different America that existed just 12 years ago: an America with 21 percent interest rates and back-to-back years of double-digit inflation; an America where mortgage payments doubled, paychecks plunged and motorists sat in gas lines; an America whose leaders told us it was our own fault, that ours was a future of scarcity and sacrifice and that what we really needed was another good dose of government control and higher taxes.

SEE WHAT YOU'RE MISSING?

	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
WCBS	CBS NEWS (CC) 895	Hard Copy Teen jealousy leads to murder 8925	Entertainment Tonight Dana Delany (CC) 609	Rescue 911 Truck hits girl in go-cart; police dog tries to save master; fireman is trapped in toxic fire, more (r/CC) 5789	Freshman Dorm Molly and Danny bicker; Lulu argues with her philosophy partner (CC) 5925	● Republican National Convention Platform adoption; keynote address by Sen. Phil Gramm 8012			NEWS 8261963	Forever Knight (r) (11:35) (1 hr.) 5956925	
WNBC	NBC NEWS (CC) 963	Cops (CC) 6321	Love Connection 147	★ Quantum Leap As a New York City cabdriver, Sam runs down a loudmouthed woman claiming to be an angel; Liz Torres, guest star (r/CC) 4447	Reasonable Doubts Tess requests a white supremacist teen-ager be tried as an adult for a Hasidic Jew's murder (Part 1 of 3) (r/CC) 3321	● Republican National Convention Platform adoption; keynote address by Sen. Phil Gramm; Tom Brokaw, anchor (CC) 3708			NEWS 8256031	Tonight Larry Miller, Ian McKellan (CC) (11:35) (1 hr.) 5974321	
WHDH	Three's Company 8437	NEWS 7215	A Current Affair (CC) 7321	★ FILM Four Play (1978) Gode Hawn, Chew Chase, Slickly enter, joining comedy suspense of woman drawn into murder plot 2674			NEWS 45876		M*A*S*H 97741	Studs 20128	
WABC	ABC NEWS (CC) 3505	Jeopardy! 2383	Wheel of Fortune 9789	Full House The men follow D.J. and her date to a movie (r/CC) 1031	Step by Step Look back to how the two families met (r/CC) 9186	★ Roseanne The girls treat Roseanne to a make-over (r/CC) 10692	● Arresting Behavior Police officers; premiere (CC) 82383	● Republican National Convention Platform adoption; keynote address by Sen. Phil Gramm; Peter Jennings, David Brinkley, anchors (CC) 30944	NEWS 22437	Nightline (CC) 15296	
WVOR	Who's the Boss? 8031	Married/Children 7857	Married/Children 4215	★ TV FILM Perry Mason: Case of the Murdered Madam (1987) Raymond Burr, Ann Jillian, Ted exposes woman's past 66383				NEWS (CC) 12147	Baseball Mets vs. Dodgers (3 hrs.) 760857		
WPIX	Happy Days 8429	Happy Days 2925	Baseball Oakland A's vs. Yankees 695447						NEWS 16963	Cheers 53321	Honeymooners 86708
WNET	Nightly Business Report 1321	MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour (CC) 26789	● Republican National Convention Platform adoption; keynote address by Sen. Phil Gramm; Tom Brokaw, Robert MacNeil and Jim Lehrer, anchors (CC) 119234								
MacNeil	MacNeil/Lehrer Newshour (CC) 26789										
	I Talk to Animals Samantha Khan										
	★ Film Chameleon Wildlife survival										
	Am You Bel...										

Was he walking around Harvard Square looking like another hip kid? It was like a slightly thinned out Calcutta there, a claustrophobic bazaar of the affluent, the crowds pressing anonymously around you, people handing you flier for jazz clubs, nails shops, self-defense classes, half the kids still and forever scruffy, in khakis and hair that called attention to itself by extreme length or shortness or color or wild and monstrous shape. Maybe he was there passing as a Harvard kid or a hanger on. Or walking in the Combat Zone, peering into the sex clubs, at the photos of the naked girls with their eyes blackened out. Everyone in that part of town looked hunted.

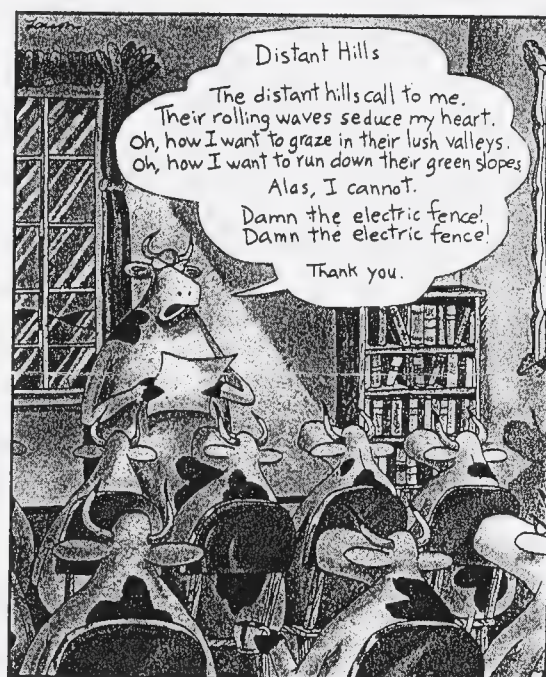
- Rosellen Brown "Before and After"

"Fierce, gripping and painful, "Before and After" will be enjoyed as a psychological thriller. It should also be appreciated as a scrupulously observed work of literary fiction, arguably the amply gifted Ms. Brown's finest book so far." - yesterday's New York Times

HEADED NORTH? - Marianne Van Pelt needs a ride to Maine this Sunday. Anyone headed that direction, please contact her at box 2321.



TIM O'BRIEN DE-FOLIATES THE TREES



Cow poetry

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The

C R U M B

New York: Today, partly sunny, scattered late thundershowers. High 83. Tonight, showers, then clearing. Low 65. Tomorrow, sunny. High 77. Yesterday, high 81, low 66. Details, page C4.

50 CENTS

August 20, 1992

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-11 - Workshops - Here's where you meet - O'Brien - Barn 1; Justice - Barn 2; Willard - Barn 3; Powers - Barn 4; Voigt - Barn West
- 11:15-12:15 - Panel - The Historical Novel - Jay Parini and Robert Houston
- 2-3 - Lecture - Francine Prose - "Fiction in the Age of 'Caring'"
- 4:30-5:30 - Reading - Margot Livesey and Rick Hawley
- 8:15-9:15 - Reading - William Matthews
- 9:30-10:30 - Reading - The Waiters

WAITER'S READING - don't miss Act Two of the waiters, who will once again prove that they can do much more than rustle up copious vittles. Tonight's readers are: Wayne Lindemann, Suzanne Bottelli, Kevin Durkin, Marianne Van Pelt, Patrick Moran, Susan Kim, Amy Palughi, Chuck Hogan, Kathy Rush, Shelia McGory-Klyza, J.D. Smith, Alexandra Shelley and Sasha Troyan.

PHOTO-OPS - We'll give this one more try. Staff, fellows and administrative scholars please meet at Treman today at 12:45 for pictures.

PHRASE OF THE DAY - "Sock me a trinky, you doggie Abraham."

DON'T BE OVERDUE - Library books were due yesterday. Please return them today.

NEWS FROM THE REAL WORLD - Despite the Republican Convention and troubles around the world, two "real-life" stories occurred yesterday that seemed more interesting. First, Woody Allen has left Mia Farrow and taken up with Mia's 21 year old adopted daughter. Second, Larry Bird, of the Boston Celtics, hung up his sneakers and retired. Said Larry: "I gave my body, my heart, my soul to the Celtics."

BONFIRE IN VERMONT - Don't forget to head out to Gilmore tonight for a reading. Bring poems and stories. BYOB.

RECYCLE - remember to bring workshop xeroxes back to the second meeting of class for further discussion.

LECTURES AVAILABLE - for those of you who wanted to read what you heard, you may now pick up lecture copies in the office.

DEPARTING? - be sure to check the list by the Front Desk if you signed up to take taxi or van service to the airport or bus station. If you didn't sign up, do so right away. Remember, it's a long walk to Burlington.

TIPPING IS PERMITTED - We know you've seen this sign in many a dining establishment and taxi cab. Well, now you're reading it here. Our beloved waiters work hard to serve you delicious, nutritious, well-balanced meals. Feel free to shower them with money and lots of it. The same goes for the maids, who, while you are enjoying a reading, make beds, empty trash cans, and otherwise tidy up. They would like a token of your appreciation as well.

ANY WRITERS OUT THERE? - Ellen Voigt will have a brief information session on the low-residency Writing Program at Warren Wilson College tomorrow at 4 in the Blue Parlor.

MEET A REAL, LIVE EDITOR - Eileen Schnurr, former fiction editor at Mademoiselle, will speak to any interested parties today in Barn West from 3:10 to 4:10. The topic of her talk is "Is there life after Bread Loaf?" (i.e.- when am I going to get published?). She has many tips so pencil her into your busy schedule.

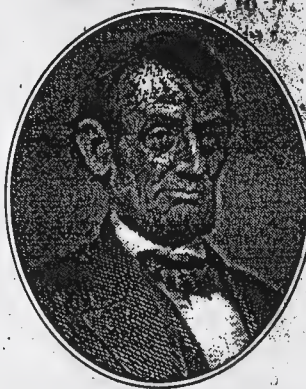
EARLY DEPARTER SOUGHT - If you're heading down the Taconic toward NYC sometime Saturday afternoon, please get in touch with Anne - Box 2383. She promises not to ask you your genre.

THE WHO'S REALLY SURPRISED DEPARTMENT -

Said Thomas Schwartz, Lincoln expert:
"These fake Lincoln quotations (used by Reagan) have been...exposed as untrue many times, but the words keep coming up..."

CRUMB EDITORIAL

If this issue of the Crumb seems weak, please excuse me. Larry Bird's retirement from pro basketball has reeled me into a tailspin from which I might never recover.



The President on the left did not say what the President on the right said he did. Page A13.

SPEAKING OF PRESIDENTS - not many people answered the quiz in which you were asked to turn President Reagan's speech into poetry (perhaps because President Reagan's words don't exactly stir one to great works of art). But here's the winner - with extra credit for a villanelle (though not a whole one):

REAGAN'S LAST STAND: A VILLANELLE

Vote not for Democratic gentle knight!
Old thespians at end of party's reign
Rage, rage against the dying points of light... (anon.)

PRESIDENTIAL QUIZ - Remember the Gettysburgh Address (Four score and seven years ago...)? History tells us that those immortal words were written on the back of an envelope. For tomorrow, write in how George Bush would have written the speech.

MADRIGALS - tomorrow's our last chance to rehearse before we perform. 7:30 in the Barn. Thank you and remember to bring your voice.

THERE'S AN ARTIST IN OUR MIDST - The Crumb wishes to acknowledge and thank Rick Hilles, contributor in poetry for the wonderful drawings that have appeared in the last couple of issues. (This one included).

APOLOGIES - to Josh Henkin, King of the Diningroom, for not identifying him thusly in yesterday's issue.

It's the very end of summer
and one night, probably this week, frost will sear,
like dry ice, a few leaves on trees that forayed
a few feet from the huddle of the woods, and there

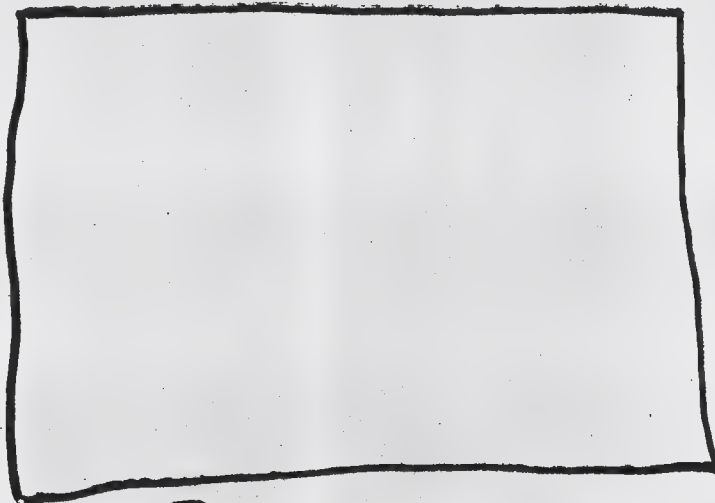
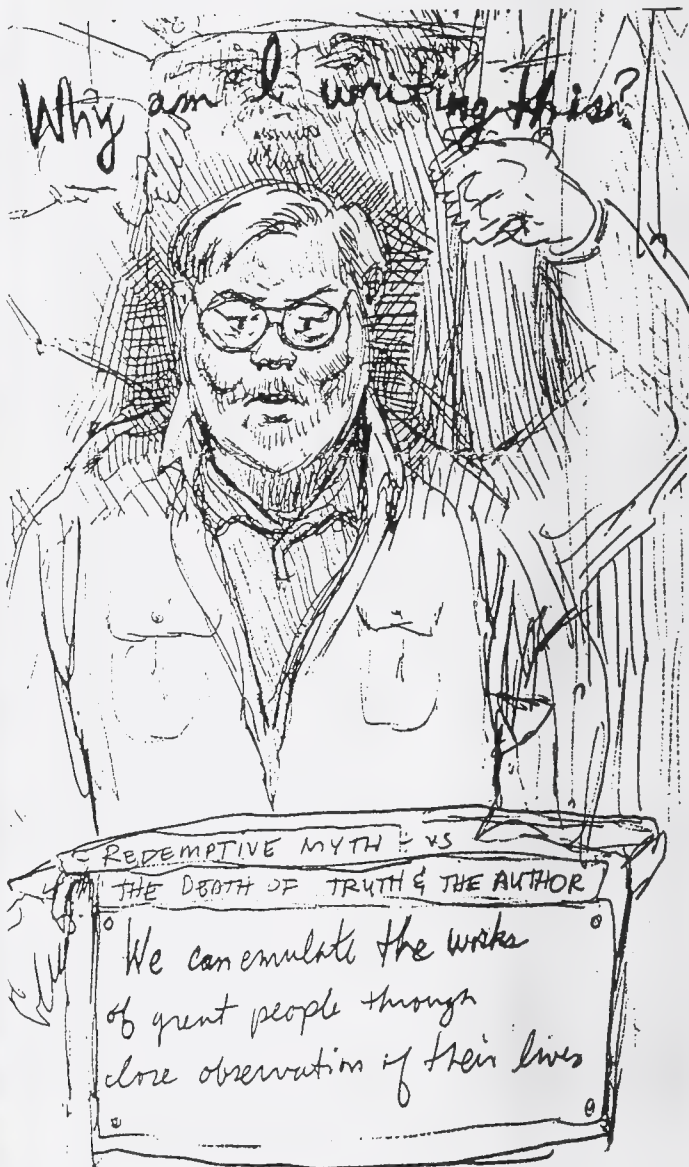
they'll be, come morning, waving their red hands
like proud culprits.

One year mosquitoes clung to and trailed from
the walls and ceilings thick as tatty fabric,

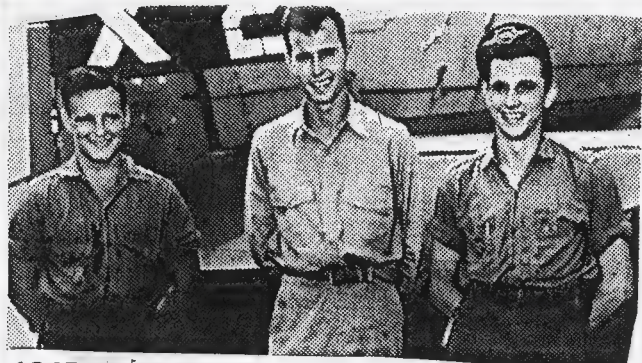
and another rain lambasted us derisively
until the sogged lawns steeped like rice
in paddies. But each
year there's a dusk when the moon, like tonight's

has risen early and every hue and tint of blue
creeps out, like an audience come to music,
to be warmed by the moon's pale fire.

-William Matthews - "Moonlight in Vermont"



↑
DRAWING SPACE



1945

George Bush with members of his flight crew, J. Reichert, left, and Leo W. Nadeau, during World War II.

THE CRUMB

Friday, August 21

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-11 - Workshops - Here's where you meet: Matthews - Barn 1; Parini - Barn 2;
Strand/Pack - Barn 3; Prose - Barn West; Willard - Barn 4; Huddle - Barn 5
11:15-12:15 - Reading - Fellows: Connie Porter, Jud Mitcham, Ehud Havazelet
2-3 - Panel - Nature Writing - John Elder, Robert Finch and Gale Lawrence
4:30-5:30 - Reading - Steve Stark and Jean Nordhaus
8:15 - Reading - Hilma Wolitzer

RECYCLE - Please bring workshop materials from the first Strand/Pack class back to this morning's workshop.

IMITATION: THE SINCEREST FORM OF FLATTERY - Let it be known that I had nothing to do with "The Crust." It was a nice try, but didn't nearly measure up to the high journalistic standards of this wonderful and witty paper. Who's the genius who edits this thing anyway?

DEPARTURE INFO - Taxi riders...you know who you are (if you don't know, check the list posted at the Front Desk). If you are taking a taxi to the Burlington Airport, it will meet you on the front porch of the Inn at the appointed time. Please be prompt. If you are not on time, the cab will not wait (and make sure to have your bags, etc. ready, too). If you miss your taxi you will have to find your own transportation (horseback, unicycle...). There will be no exceptions so please check the front desk for the exact time your taxi is leaving and be ready.

LET THE MONEY FLOW - Tips for waiters can be left in envelopes at the front desk. Put tips for maids in an envelope and specify your building and room number. Leave these money-filled missives at the front desk as well.

PUT ON YOUR TOPHAT - and go to the final cocktail party of the conference. It's a gala event, a chance to wear fancy clothes if you like. Meet at the Treman lawn at 5:30. In case of rain, head to the barn.

BIRDS AND BEES - Today at 2 in the Little Theater will be a panel on nature writing, run by three widely published writers on nature (makes sense, doesn't it?). John Elder and Robert Finch are co-editors of the Norton Anthology of Nature Writers, so if you're interested in communing with the great outdoors, be there.

SALE! - The bookstore is having a storewide 20% sale on Friday and Saturday. In addition to books, the t-shirts, toiletries and stationery items are all discounted. Friday hours are 8:30-noon and 2 to 5. On Saturday, the store will be open only from 8:30 to noon.

THE SADDEST OF FAREWELLS - The Crumb bids a mournful goodbye to Josh Henkin, King of the Diningroom, who left early to go to a wedding.

QUAYLE'S RESPONSE TO FRANCINE PROSE'S LECTURE - "It's very important to tell our kids to study hard, learn to spell, try to read books and so on and so forth, but it's even more important to teach them traditional values, bring them up in good neighborhoods, shield them from bad influences, introduce them to the right people, make sure they have a trust fund and ask God to send them very good luck." - Dan Quayle.

CRUMB QUIZ - Here's the chance you've all been waiting for. After reading way after brilliant way to ask for a beer at Bread Loaf, the Crumb invites its readers to submit their own suggestions. A panel of expert judges, headed by Woody Woodsum and Dan Elish, will evaluate each choice and hand out prizes that include (among other things), a guided tour of the Crumb office and one of Woody's corks, autographed.

PEN LOST - Mark Strand has lost a black and gold Waterman's ball point pen. Please keep your eyes out for it. Reward.

"He's fired up. He eats nails for breakfast." — Jeb Bush

"Joining the National Guard was an honorable decision." — Vice President Dan Quayle

Barbara Bush, giving assembly-line interviews to local television stations, had finally had enough of her stereotype as the custodian of maternal, stay-at-home family values.

In an interview with Bill Nigut of WSB-TV in Atlanta, Mrs. Bush abruptly metamorphosed into Ms. Bush, career woman.

Asked solicitously about her choice to be a homemaker, the First Lady snapped back indignantly: "Would you say that to Arthur Miller, who wrote two plays? Would you say you choose to be a homemaker to him? I've written two books."

Mrs. Bush's two books, of course, are her canine memoirs, "C. Fred's Story, a Dog's Life" (1984) and "Millie's Book" (1990). It was not clear which two of Mr. Miller's many plays she was likening to this literary output.

Her comments led to good-natured conjecture that the playwright's "All My Sons" (1947) was initially titled "All My Dogs." But dogged textual analysis failed to reveal that any Satanic pets were incinerated in the Salem witch trials dramatized in "The Crucible" (1953).

There are parallels between Willy Loman, the protagonist of "Death of a Salesman," and Millie Bush, even though Millie is very well liked as the Bush family's top wage earner. As Willy got through life with a shoe-shine and a smile, so Millie relies on a bark and a wag.

But "Millie's Book" takes a far more optimistic view of the American dream than Mr. Miller's play, ending not with death, but with fireworks: "The Prez told me that if I'd stick with him, he'd show me my name in a THOUSAND POINTS OF LIGHT," Millie says, "and he did."

Keeping It Brief On Woody Allen

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Sex Dept:

William Kristol, Vice President Quayle's chief of staff, when asked about Woody Allen and family values:

"I'm tempted to say that Woody Allen is a good Democrat, and leave it at that."

Linda's driving improved greatly during those weeks before their departure for Iowa. It was due partly to experience and partly to an extreme mustering of will. After parallel parking, entering major highways was the greatest challenge; to come suddenly abreast of all those other vehicles moving at suicidal speed, and to have to find one's place without breaking stride!

She tried to think of it in terms of dancing, how she always managed to place her foot between her partner's feet for the briefest moment, without hesitation or loss of beat. But that didn't work. Driving was not like dancing.

- Hilma Wolitzer "Hearts"



Weekend

The New York Times

THE NEW YORK TIMES, Saturday, AUGUST 22, 1992

Summer Art's Force: **The CRUMB**

AS YOU CAN SEE, WORD OF THE CRUMB HAS SPREAD TO SOME OF THE GREAT PAPER'S IN THE WORLD. I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE HERE WHO HAS HELPED MAKE THIS POSSIBLE.

THE DAY'S EVENTS

9-11 .. Workshops .. Here's where you meet - Justice - Barn 1; Pastan - Barn 3;
O'Brien - Barn 2; Wolitzer - Barn 4; Brown - Barn West
11:15-12:15 - Reading - Fellows: Judith Hall, Pinckney Benedict and James Harms
2-3 - Panel on Closure
8:15 - Reading - Mark Strand

RECYCLE - Please bring workshop materials from the first Rosellen Brown workshop back to class today.

BOOK SALE - today's your last chance to show our staff and fellows your support through massive purchases of their literary output. 20% today, but remember the store will open its doors at 8:30 and close them at one.

FRONT DESK NEWS - the last mail pickup will be today at two. And if you're on time for anything this conference, please be ready for your cab tomorrow morning, with your bags packed. These Vermont taxi drivers are ruthless and may well leave without you.

GRATUITIES, PLEASE - for those who vittle you each day (yes, "vittle" is now a verb) and those who make your beds. Leave tips in an envelope at the front desk. For maids, indicate your building and room number.

SOFTBALL - Get out your mitts and head to the field at 3.

CUT THAT RUG - Here's your last chance to shake it, and more importantly ask for a beer with one of the eleven or so officially sanctioned Bread Loaf phrases. Woody Woodsum's dance tape begins with oldies, then switches gears into music of more recent vintage - music that will make you move as though possessed by the mad beat of a tribal drummer (whatever that is...). For those of you in search of more sedate entertainment, go to the Blue Parlor where ice, mixers and cups will be supplied. BYOB.

MADRIGALS - Don't forget - one last chance to practice before our gala concert. 5:30...

THE I HAVE NO SHAME AND WILL DO ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING TO GET RE-ELECTED DEPARTMENT - The headline of yesterday's New York Times read: "BUSH PROMISES ACROSS THE BOARD TAX CUT."

TAKE YOUR COAT AND GRAB YOUR HAT - remember to pack everything you own. Look under your bed, in closets, under friend's beds - anywhere.

CRUMB CONTEST RESULTS - in which you were asked for a final creative "beer name." For its Biblical simplicity, the judges chose; "Tap me an Ecclesiastes," submitted by Gary Margolis. Sebastian Matthews was first runner up with his electric: "Charge me a low-watt." Finally, Bob Reiss wins the mix and match award for his bastardization of previous names: "Cool, Moses a doggie Jesus, Abraham." All three will be given a guided tour of the Crumb office. The Crumb is forced to sadly acknowledge a mis-guided entry by Ann Hood: "May I have some suds, please?"

BREADLOAF HISTORY - "Whose Woods These Are," a history of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference (edited by David Bain and Mary Duffy with an introduction by Marvin Bell) will be published by Ecco Press this coming spring, complete with 35 photos. Announcements will be sent in the spring.

ORDERING PHOTOS - For those faculty, fellows, scholars, waiters and administrators who would like a visual memory of your glorious 12 days here on the mountain, photos may be ordered in the office for \$6 a piece. Delivery is in October.

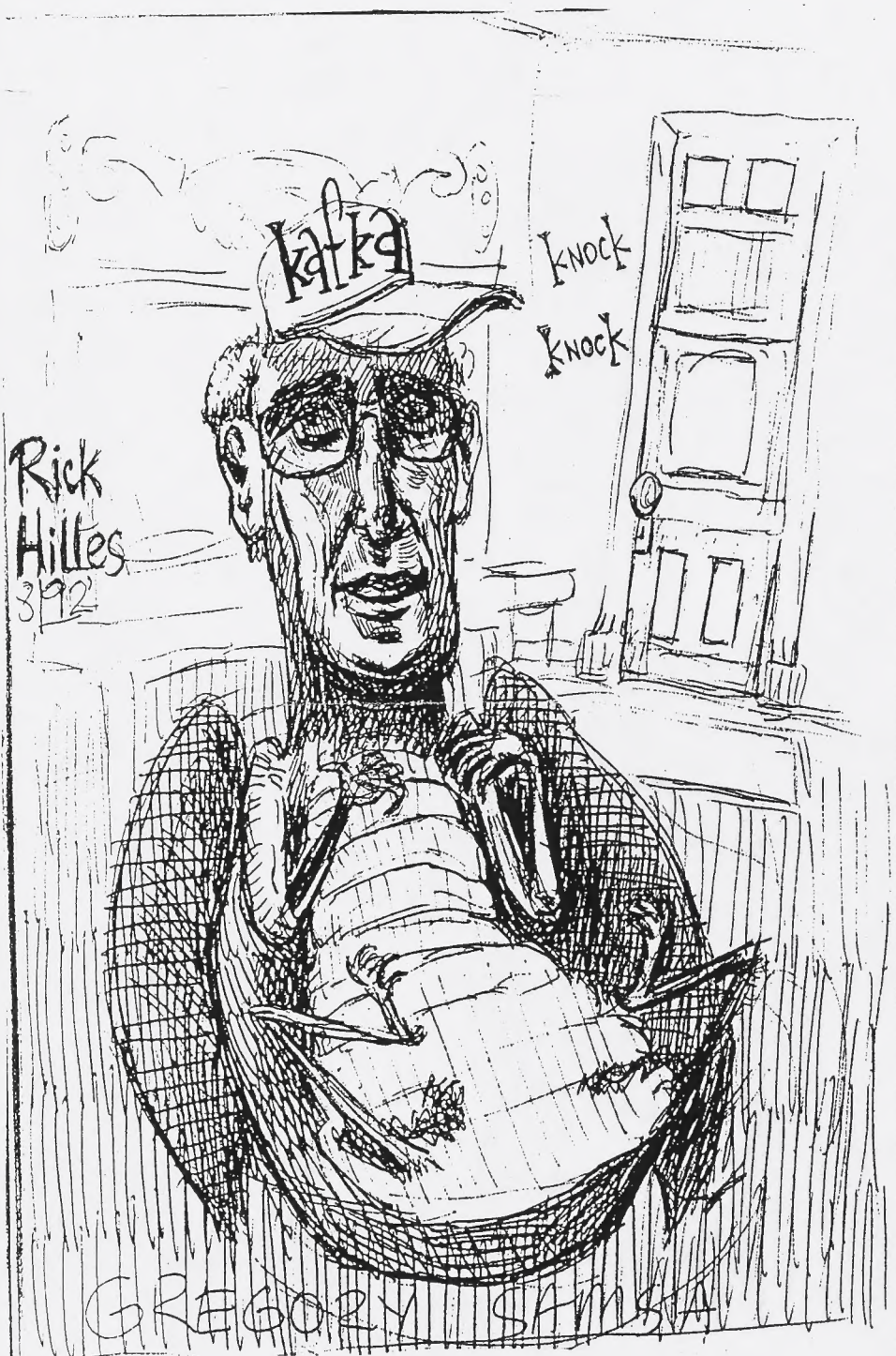
MOVIE TIME - today in the Milk House at 3:15. Come see "Robert Frost: Across the Fence," a half hour video tour of the Frost Cabin. The interview is conducted by Lyn Jarvis (WCAX-TV) with David Bain, Bread Loaf Historian.

ALL CONFERENCE GROUP PHOTO - will be taken today at 12:45 on the lawn opposite the inn. Come and become part of Bread Loaf history.

CRUMB QUIZ - Who's the wildest wildflower in all of Bread Loaf?

- a) Jennifer Bates
- b) Jennifer Bates
- c) Jennifer Bates
- d) all of the above
- e) all of the above, except a

The gifted have told us for years that they want to be loved
 For what they are, that they, in whatever fullness is theirs,
 Are perishable in twilight, just like us. So they work all night
 In rooms that are cold and webbed with the moon's light;
 Sometimes, during the day, they lean on their cars,
 And stare into the blistering valley, glassy and golden,
 But mainly they sit, hunched in the dark, feet on the floor,
 Hands on the table, shirts with a bloodstain over the heart.
 - Mark Strand "The Midnight Club"



No Comment Yet On Strategy for '94

But will it be a good year for potatoes?

Asked by Bernard Shaw, the CNN anchor, if a Bush-Quayle victory in 1992 would make him the heir apparent in 1996, Vice President Dan Quayle answered:

"Let us get through this week. Let us get through the debate or debates. Let us see George Bush re-elected this November. And then we'll talk about 1994."

Perhaps Jack F. Kemp, James F. Baker 3d, William J. Bennett and Patrick J. Buchanan won't be running that year.

CRUMB EDITORIAL -

It is the Crumb's opinion that Helen Schulman lives at 210 West 103rd St., not 2 West 103rd as it says on your address list. Please make a note of it.

A Worsening Situation...

THE CRUMB

Bread Loaf - August 23, 1992

THE DAY'S EVENTS

- 9-12 - Try to tear yourself away to go home.
- 12-7 - Travel home, staring wistfully out the window or down the road, thinking of Bread Loaf, writing and Vermont
- 7-11 - Try to explain to loved ones what happened the past 12 days. Then try to explain why you're so tired.
- 11 - shower in your own, personal bathroom, then go to sleep.

THE YEAR'S EVENTS

- September - write
- October - write some more
- November - keep writing
- December - re-write
- January - show manuscript to friends
- February - disagree with friends, but re-write again
- March - re-apply to Bread Loaf
- April - mid-August - dream about poetry readings
- mid August - come on back...

A FEW FINAL NOTES - The definitive history of the writers' conference, "Whose Woods These Are," edited by David Bain, will include 350 pictures. Look for an announcement come spring.

LET US KEEP IN TOUCH - For the future - as long as (but only as long as) we have your correct address, you will receive a copy of the flyer announcing the conference each year toward the end of January. Application forms aren't included, but are available upon request. The descriptive booklet is also sent upon request. You'll also receive copies of our newsletter, named, of course "The Crumb," when the editor gets around to it.

FRONT OFFICE NEWS - By the time you are reading this, postal service will have ceased until next summer. The Front Office officially closes today.

THE GET HOME SAFELY COLUMN - please don't let last night's revels interfere with your ability to see the road if you are driving. Please drive carefully and if you feel tired (I can't imagine why you would) pull over and rest, drink coffee, and consume large quantities of chocolate.

BE SURE TO - bring home with you some of those clever ways to ask for drinks. Kiss your husband or wife hello and say, "Boy am I beat. Could you leash me a doggie Moses?"

A FINAL WORD FROM DAN QUAYLE (Sorry, I couldn't resist...) - "I just don't understand what this problem is that some people have about praying in school. The United States of America was founded by people who prayed in school. If you don't want to pray in school you can just transfer to another school. Or at least stand outside the classroom for a few minutes and don't make everybody else suffer."

(By the way, these quotes are true, hard as it is to believe).

QUIZ ANSWER - The wildest wildflower in all of Bread Loaf is Jennifer Bates.

SPECIAL THANKS - to Norton Girault and Rick Hilles for their artwork and cartoons.



Thanks

for

Comin' G